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729 Olive Street Columbia, SC 29205-1853 May 5, 2010 2009-489-2

Commissioner
Public Service Commission of South Carolina
Post Office Drawer 11649
Columbia, SC 29211-1649

Dear Sir or Madam:

The enclosed notice is the most recent in a disgusting repetition of this kind that has come to residents over the years.

My research shows that in 1846 a group of business leaders formed Columbia Gas Light Company merging in the 1920s with several small electric utilities and becoming Broad River Power Company in 1924, a subsidiary of General Gas & Electric Corporation. In 1937 Broad River Power Company changed its name to South Carolina Electric & Gas Company. In addition to its other functions, it operated the city transportation system.

At the encouragement of Mr. Mason Gibbs, my grandfather moved his family and business to Columbia from Augusta, GA in 1907. As a businessman he was acquainted with city leaders and politicians. From his association with these persons he was told that Broad River Power Company was assured there would be no competition for their services as long as they operated the city transportation system. It has been a number of years that SCE&G has not operated the transportation system. However, no cooperative system is allowed to provide service to customers in SCE&G area. It is demoralizing to be told by a resident of Lexington County that they pay a monthly bill of approximately sixty dollars (\$60.00) while I pay approximately three hundred dollars (\$300.00) for utilities for a comparable house.

Please consider allowing a cooperative utility company to offer services to residents of Columbia and central South Carolina. SCE&G sells electricity to approximately 652,000 customers in a 15,000 square mile area, and sells natural gas to approximately 291,000 customers in a 22,000 square mile area.

Yours very truly,

Charles M. Hill

cc: Mid-Carolina Electric Cooperative